

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



Robert J. Gaffney
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

CLARE B. BRADLEY, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

October 1, 2001

Mr. James L. Colter
Department of the Navy
Engineering Field Activity, Northeast
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway, Mail Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: CALVERTON NWIRP PHASE 2 RI/FS FOR SITE 1, & RI FOR SITES 6A & 10B

Dear Mr. Colter:

On behalf of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS), I am pleased to offer the following comments on the "Draft Phase 2 Remedial Investigation and Focused Feasibility Study for Site 1 – Northeast Pond Disposal Area, Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant, Calverton, New York" and "Phase 2 Remedial Investigation, Site 6A – Fuel Calibration Area, Site 10B – Engine Test House, and Southern Area, Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant, Calverton, New York" both dated July 2001 prepared by Tetra Tech NUS, Inc.:

Site 1 – Northeast Pond Disposal Area

The SCDHS concurs with the findings of the report. It is the SCDHS' understanding that the Navy will select Alternative 3 – complete excavation and off-site disposal of all wastes disposed of at the site. This action should be protective of public health, and is supported by the SCDHS.

Sites 6A, 10B, and Southern Area

- More work needs to be done on defining the source of deep VOC contamination at the Fuel Calibration area before remedial alternatives can be designed. Upgradient sources need to be ruled out. Use of the analytical model to "backtrack" to a hypothetical spill in the early 1908s is unsatisfactory.
- The horizontal hydraulic conductivity value determined by the lone on-site pump test appears to be low by a factor of two to three. This raises doubts about the analytical model results, particularly the rate of groundwater flow.
- The rates at which VOCs degrade in the aquifer may be overestimated. It has been the SCDHS' experience that VOCs are fairly conservative.

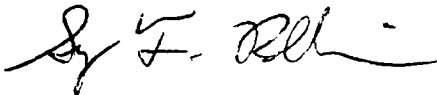
J. Colter
Oct. 1, 2001
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Sites 6A, 10B, and Southern Area (continued)

- The SCDHS agrees that overland flow may have been responsible for accelerating the southward spread of VOC contamination.
- The groundwater VOC concentrations approaching the Peconic River may require interception and treatment. Systems for accomplishing this should be evaluated as part of the feasibility study.

If you wish to discuss these comments further, please contact me at (631) 853-2308.

Very truly yours,



Sy F. Robbins, C.P.G.
County Hydrogeologist

Cc. J. McCullough, NYSDEC
W. Kuehner, NYSDOH
G. Proios, Office Co. Exec.

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10B, and Southern Area (continued)

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